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Conservation Commission Minutes 03/01/2012

Arlington Conservation Commission
 Minutes
 March 1, 2012

Mr. Stevens called the meeting to order at 7:45 p.m. in the second floor conference room of the Town Hall Annex. Present were Nathaniel Stevens, Chris Naylor, Curt Connors, David White, Charles Tirone, Michelle Durocher and Eileen Coleman of the Commission. Catherine Garnett, of the Commission, was not in attendance. Also present were Stephen Biagioni, Patrick Maguire, Tim Power, Chris Brown, Ernie Guarino, John Griffin, and Nick Mitropoulis.

7:45 pm – Commission Business

White/Coleman motioned to approve the 2/16 **minutes** with edits; motion passed unanimously.

The Finance Committee reviewed the request for the **Waterbodies fund** and voted to recommend funding the full request of \$50K. The warrant now proceeds to Town Meeting in April.

Mr. Stevens presented the latest alterations to the new small park addition at the **Symmes** property.

The **Walking Book subcommittee** met with Adam K., the Town's GIS coordinator, and worked up a draft map. The Wiki system is on hold, possibly permanently, while the group utilizes the Google Docs site for review of information.

The **MACC annual conference** will be held this coming weekend; Ms. Coleman and Mr. Stevens will attend.

8pm – **Notice of Intent** – 0 Mystic St (behind 24 Summer St), Arlington Catholic athletic field renovation, continued from 2/16

Mr. Maguire distributed printed materials to the Commission. He presented new hydrologic calculations that included altering the soils from class D to class B, which still show a decrease in the flows from the existing condition to the post-development condition. This decrease in runoff is achieved by allowing for increased infiltration.

The current LSP reviewed the groundwater conditions at the site and concurred that the groundwater contamination would not be exacerbated by this amount of increased infiltration. They drafted a soils management plan and this was distributed to the Commission at this meeting.

Mr. Naylor asked if the calculations shouldn't be a class B for the existing conditions and possibly a class D for the post condition. The applicant described the post condition as similar to a gravel road. Is this appropriate? Mr. Power responded that the gravel road description is probably too dense to that which will be achieved by a roller compactor on the existing soils and then a layer of stone gravel placed on top of that and compacted with the roller.

Ms. Beckwith related that Mr. Chouinard, the Town Engineer, has forwarded a comment that the tie-in to the existing drain system might not be feasible. The pipe is barely functioning at capacity at the moment and the new tie in will add 6 cfs to this pipe. He made some suggestions for redesigning this in an email which Ms. Beckwith will forward to the applicants.

Mr. Tirone asked if the new discharge will alter the velocity of the water in Mill Brook and where is the outlet of the drain pipe? Mr. Powers described that the amount of water getting in to Mill Brook overall is less with the project due to increased infiltration and the outlet of the pipe is probably located within the culverted section of brook.

McPhail Associates, LLC, the LSP, for the project, categorizes the trench work for the new drain lines as utility work. There are only two of these that cross the field.

Mr. Connors asked if the person who signed the Soils Management plan was an LSP, since it wasn't signed by the PE on the end of the letter, Ambrose Donovan. The applicant will confirm this with McPhail Associates.

The applicants responded to the question of zinc leachate from the turf material. The rubber used in the mat is derived mainly from car tire rubber which has a lower Zn content.

Two members of the Arlington Housing Authority board expressed their support of this project since it will spruce up the park and encourage positive use of the location by the students and residents.

Mr. Connors asked if the LSP was on site during the work to determine if and when the soils management plan needs to be implemented. Mr. Brown responded yes.

Ms. Beckwith asked if the LSP thought that a barrier was necessary or not? The LSP did not think a barrier was required at this site with the level of contamination and uses proposed.

Ms. Beckwith asked if the proposed work would preclude access to the different easements on the property. The applicants said that the proposal did not prevent access to the easements.

Ms. Beckwith found the Response Action Outcome document (500 pages) for the site on the DEP's website for review.

Naylor/White motioned to continue the hearing to 3/15 at 8pm, with the applicants' consent; motion passed unanimously.

Commission Business, cont.

Mr. Stevens brought a copy of a new review of the **Upper Alewife Brook drainage** by Horsley Witten Group, in regards to the Belmont Uplands project.

Mr. Stevens thought he saw a new unpermitted dock at **0 Spy Pond Parkway**, and asked Ms. Beckwith to bring out the existing permit for this house lot.

Ms. Beckwith conveyed a report of cutting of vegetation at **Reeds Brook** along Reed Street, if anyone had time to inspect this location.

Meeting adjourned at 9:10pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Corinna Beckwith
Commission Administrator